

News Release

Northwest Minnesota Local Initiatives Energy Meeting: Community-Based Energy Potential

By Linda Kingery on Tuesday, August 21, 2007

Crookston, Minnesota (August 19, 2007) – Are you interested in learning more about recently passed legislation like the Next Generation Energy Act of 2007 and the Dispersed Generation Study? Do you want to find out what role your community could play in dispersed renewable energy generation? The Northwest Minnesota Local Initiatives Energy Meeting will help you gain a better understanding of recent energy policy, current energy infrastructure, and the economic and environmental opportunities that may be available within your county.

The U of M's Northwest Regional Sustainable Development Partnership will host the meeting on Wed., Sept. 19 in Thief River Falls. "This is an excellent chance to learn about recently-passed energy policy and have a voice in the potential that renewable energy holds for this region," says Northwest Partnership Director Linda Kingery. "With utilities and communities working together there may be real opportunities to use local resources, create new jobs, and protect the environment."

The meeting hopes to attract electric utility representatives, zoning and planning officials, city officials, county commissioners, economic development professionals, renewable energy developers, large end users of electricity, and other citizens interested in community based renewable energy. "We'll need everyone at the table for an honest conversation," states Kingery. "That is the best way to identify and implement community-scale energy projects."

Date: Wednesday, September 19, 2007

Time: 9:00 am – 3:30 pm

Location: Ralph Engelstad Arena, 525 Brooks Ave N, Thief River Falls, MN 56701

Cost: FREE – RSVPs required for lunch

RSVP at <http://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/>

Please visit the Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs) for more information and t register for the meeting. Initiated in 2003, CERTs are a collaborative effort of the University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships, Minnesota Department of Commerce, the Minnesota Project, the Southwest Regional Development Commission and community members from across the state.

To RSVP for the Northwest Minnesota Wind Local Initiatives Energy Meeting, go to<http://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/> or contact

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<http://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org>

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